

## **Competency Guidelines for Academic Preparation of Baccalaureate Nurses Caring for Patients with Wounds**

- 1. Demonstrates knowledge of**
  - 1.1 Anatomy and physiology of the skin**
  - 1.2 Physiology of normal wound healing**
  - 1.3 Pathophysiology of chronic wounds**
  - 1.4 Risk assessment strategies of factors impairing wound healing**
  - 1.5 Signs and symptoms of wound infection**
  - 1.6 Evidence based principles related to wound care**
  - 1.7 Psychosocial aspects of acute and chronic wounds**
- 2. Performs a comprehensive assessment of the individual including risk factors for the development of chronic wounds and delayed healing (e.g., ability to mobilize, nutritional status, infection).**
- 3. Demonstrates principles of wound bed preparation including The TIME acronym of Tissue, Infection, Moisture and Edges of the wound for the management of the wound.**
- 4. Performs accurate documentation of wound assessment and management strategies.**
- 5. Identify key management strategies (e.g., dressing selection, cleansing, topical, pressure relief) rather than extensive strategies.**
- 6. Classifies major wound types appropriately: pressure, venous, diabetic, arterial, full-thickness, and partial-thickness.**
- 7. Uses current evidence based research as the basis for wound care.**

- 8. Participates in developing patient focused interdisciplinary plans of care including goals and expected outcomes.**
- 9. Assists individuals and caregivers to make informed health care decisions related to wound care.**
- 10. Monitors and evaluates wound treatment outcomes.(e.g., methods of measuring healing)**
- 11. Develops strategies for follow up for evaluation of treatment plan/prevention of recurrence.**

**Adapted from:**

**Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council, National Competency standards for the Registered Nurse Standards for Wound Management 1<sup>st</sup> edition (2002). Australian Wound Management Association, Inc.**

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